

**FIRES RAVAGING  
PLUNDERED CITY  
AFTER MUTINY OF  
CHINESE TROOPS**

## Peking Is in Flames, Following Orgy of Violence and Looting.

**MANY KILLED,  
BUT FOREIGNERS  
REPORTED SAFE**

Authorities Are Helpless Before Revolting Soldiers, Who Spent Day in Killing and Sacking Stores and Residences of Their Wealth—Legations Armed and Fortified, Ready to Withstand Attack—Shell Falls in American Compound, and Minister Calhoun Has Narrow Escape—Crisis Is Grave and May Mean Failure of New Government

## Mutineers Leave City; Foreigners Are Safe

Peking, March 1.—2 A. M.—The mutinous troops have departed from the city. The disorders have stopped. Yuan Shi Kai and the Nanking delegates, including Tang Shao Yi, are safe. No foreigners have been injured.

**CITY IN GRAVE PERIL.**  
(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch, Peking, March 1.—The city to-night is in grave peril. The soldiers are out of hand, and the authorities have lost all control. Great fires are burning in all directions, and the greater portion of the Tartar City has been destroyed. All foreigners are safe in the legation compounds.

For some unknown reason, probably, however, because they had not been paid, the soldiers mutinied and started fighting. This was followed by rioting and looting, and then the torch was applied. Fire broke out in all directions, and soon the Tartar city was a mass of flames.

Many persons were killed, but all the foreigners got out of danger in time. The legion guards gallantly sallied out into the disturbed zone and rescued all foreigners residing there. These were brought into the legion compounds.

The American legation first learned of the outbreak when a spent bullet struck the wall right above where Minister Calhoun was standing.

There undoubtedly has been great devastation all over the capital, but it is impossible to obtain any details as to no foreigner dare venture outside the legations. Much foreign property has been burned, and fires are still raging in all directions. The firing, however, has practically ceased.

One report has it that the troops attacked President Yuan Shi Kai. The soldiers also attacked the rebel delegates from Nanking, and nothing is known as to what happened to them.

The situation brings on a grave crisis, and likely means the failure of the new government. The authorities are absolutely powerless.

Foreign reinforcements are on the way to assist those already at the legation, which are safe for the present.

The day was an orgy of violence and plunder. The soldiers, armed with rifles and bayonets, each with about 100 rounds of ammunition, started out by burning their barracks. They then ransacked the shops. The ones that looked best were those of the smiths, silversmiths, pawnbrokers and art stores. When the soldiers were complacent and at a distance they were upon one who made a fighting shot down or bayoneted. The plunder was hastily and recklessly put into blankets and baskets. The police and coolies joined in the plundering.

**Foreigners Are Safe.**

Peking, March 1 (I. A. M.).—A report from Peking says that the natives have been killed or wounded but so far as known all foreigners are safe. The legation quarters are crowded, but the missionaries are holding forth in their own compounds.

When the outbreak occurred it was estimated that 2,000 soldiers took part, but since then the mutineers have been augmented by large numbers of the police, coolies and boatmen.

The legations know no reason for the outbreak. The idea is expressed that Yuan Shi Kai's soldiers began the trouble when they learned

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